

Series I
Correspondence,
1932-1973

Box 7, Folder 19

January 20, 1964 -
September 25, 1964

FARMINGTON
CONNECTICUT

20th Jan. 1964

Dear Dick,

Although I take it you are now in California I am answering your letter by return mail because if I don't it may get buried and lost.

There is nothing one can 'do' about becoming a college or university president; in fact, any attempt to seek such a job would be looked upon with marked disfavor by the trustees of any reputable institution. Admiral Smedberg, I see, was born in 1902 and so has reached the age that is usually considered to be much too old for an incoming president. Finally, there is now a marked reluctance ^{in the educational world} ~~to~~ taking ~~take~~ on retired statesmen and military people, no matter how distinguished their careers have been. Admiral Smedberg with his experience as Superintendent of the Naval Academy would be regarded by the learned profession with more approval than most 'outsiders,' but I should think, even so, the chances of his being chosen would be slight.

I have written you candidly, which I know is what you would have me do.

Yours ever,

William

LEWIS

1152

12 May 1964

Dear Bates:-

Thank you for your letter of May 7- and the interesting enclosure - (Article by Australian writer - Dennis Werner) which I had seen before - or something very similar from a Milwaukee paper. I am hopeful that there will be no press controversy about this - because it would be harmful.

I note that you are living at 12 Mount Vernon St in Newport - which sounds like the place I boarded in 1922-1923 while I was taking the Naval War College Course. It was the home of "Auntie Bliss" - as I remember - and she - Auntie Bliss was a Charming old lady.

I hope this finds you in the best of health & spirits - with best wishes and warm regards

Sincerely - C. W. Nimitz

375 Vane Street
Revere, Massachusetts 02151

May 13, 1964

Dear Admiral Bates:

Thank you very much for your nice letter of May 7th and your kind remembrance of my family.

Your kind offer for me to return to active duty was most enticing, but I have recently decided to go into business (restaurant) for myself. This business has not yet been in operation, but will be within a week. Perhaps if this business does not prove profitable, within a month or so, I then would certainly like to return to active duty and serve with you.

I surely hope that the Navy Department decides to reactivate your group and that you can complete your work. I know how much it means to you and the benefit it will have for many others in the years to come.

Best regards Admiral and thank you again for your kind offer.

Very respectfully,

Maurice W. Burton

MAURICE W. BURTON
YNC, U.S. Navy (Ret.)

Rear Admiral Richard W. Bates, U.S. Navy (Ret.)
12 Mount Vernon Street
Newport, Rhode Island

1154

1340 Northwestern Avenue
West Lafayette, Indiana

14 May, 1964

Dear Rafe:

I was happy to hear from you once again and learn that you are in good shape. Your plans and hopes for the future sound good also.

When your letter came I was in the process of notifying the several colleges and universities with which I had been negotiating that I had taken a position with Omaha University and was no longer available. It never rains but it pours: within half an hour after the arrival of the mail the University of Utah was on the telephone to ask me to come out to Salt Lake City. No doubt this was the result of an extra-fine letter from you and I thank you for it.

In thinking about the University of Utah the old question comes up: Would the University of Utah and the Elders of Mormon be entirely comfortable with an old seafarer like me? I suppose that I would have been labeled an infidel and that way both of us would have survived.

The agreement that I signed with the University of Omaha is for a position as an Assistant Professor at \$9,000 for nine months teaching. Summer work is extra. They have been running Industrial Engineering as an option under Mechanical Engineering and visualize me as the one to build it up and eventually run it as an independent activity. The University is growing faster than Omaha is because industry is moving into Omaha and there is more demand for higher education. Most of the students live at home so that there is more studying and less playing than in some other schools. In addition there are a considerable number of adults who are continuing their education by attending evening classes once or twice a week. The President of the University emphasized that the University's first concern was community service both to the regular student body and to the adult students in the evening classes. This is a good thing. The only disadvantage is that each instructor is expected to carry a teaching load of 12 credit hours where Purdue and other large universities expect a normal load of about 9 hours. Omaha is growing rapidly and seems like a pleasant place to live. Another advantage is that Nebraska has no sales tax and no income tax. I can't back out of the agreement and it is unlikely that I would be better off financially to come back on active duty. No doubt I will have to work longer hours in Omaha and sweat more (I was advised to get an air conditioned apartment for summer living!)

1155

We are just at the end of the spring blooming period here in Lafayette. The fruit trees and early shrubs bloomed first; lilac is now fading. It is a good time of the year. I'll miss Lafayette as I have liked it here. The people here are friendly and mostly good Republicans.

I received an MS degree in Industrial Engineering in January and expect to receive another MS in Industrial Administration in August. Then I will move to Omaha and start to work about the first of September.

I do hope that your health continues to be good and that the work goes forward on schedule. I shall be glad to help in any way that I can within the limits of my time and capabilities. In any event please write again and let me know how the project is coming out.

With sincere and friendly best wishes,

As ever


Jack Titus

St. Petersburg, Florida
17 May 1964

Dear Admiral,

It was a pleasant surprise to hear from you. I thought you had forgotten me as I wrote to you a couple of times in the last five years, but perhaps they did not reach you.

I am pleased to hear that the Navy Department has under consideration, the reopening of the WW II BEG. If they had listened to you a few years ago, the Study would never have been terminated and the Volumes would have been completed by this time. There is nothing I would like better than serve on your staff if this project is reopened. However an estimate of my situation makes it not feasible, Particularly for a two or three year period that I estimate the project may last.

Please excuse me a moment if I digress to give you the background on my position at present. I have been employed at the local Post Office for the last five years. It is one of the better paying jobs in the vicinity for my age group and lack of professional experience. We own two homes here, living in one and the mother in law, recently a widow, lives in the other. Her health would not allow her to move north, the wife will not leave her here alone, and I hesitate to leave my wife and daughter to set around a barracks every night for two or three years. In addition to the above I would be sacrificing financially, even over an extended period, as my yearly income is close to 8,000. I know that I have a duty to my country, also a deep respect and admiration for you, but I must decline the offer, that under different circumstances I would be eager to accept.

Glad to hear you have been enjoying a vacation in California. You have reached the time of life that you should take time out to enjoy yourself. We have a trip to Newport planned in August and had intended to look you up, even before I had the letter from you.

Thankyou Admiral, for considering me for what I consider a very important position and I am disappointed that I am unable to accept, as I feel that I have let you down. Hope to see you in August, I am

Very Respectfully,

Sam Trembath
Samuel T. Trembath

2300-80th Street No.
St. Petersburg,
Florida. 33710

1157



Navy Relief Society
The Rhode Island Auxiliary

Newport, R. I.

8 June 1964

Rear Admiral Richard W. Bates
12 Mt. Vernon Street
Newport, Rhode Island

Dear Admiral Bates:

Your most generous contribution to the 1964 Navy Relief Fund Drive is acknowledged with my personal thanks. These gifts provide a substantial boost toward building the sum which the Society will need for its work this year. Please be assured that your money, and that of all friends participating, will be administered conscientiously to assure the availability of counsel and financial help to servicemen who meet with emergencies and hardships.

On behalf of the Rhode Island Auxiliary of the Navy Relief Society, I extend our appreciation for your help in making the drive successful and assuring continued assistance to worthy personnel.

Sincerely,

L. LOVIG, Jr.
Captain, SC, USN
Chairman, Community
Contributions Committee

1158

John Mosler

July 14, 1964

Dear Admiral Bates,

Not for the world would we have wished to inconvenience you or embarrass our very dear friend Paul Miller, had not the cruise gotten a little out of control.

When we pulled into Newport, we were given a slip right near to the ferry. We also had another incident which is rather amusing and I hope some day I will have the pleasure of meeting and telling you about it.

In view of this, we decided to wait as long as we could, hoping to have the pleasure of meeting you and then pull out and go over Long Island. Shortly before 5:30 my Captain recommended strongly that we leave in order to reach our destination before dark. Unfortunately, there was no way of reaching you and finding out whether our arrangements were tentative or definite.

After speaking to Paul Miller, finding out your interest and generosity, we all wanted first of all to express our appreciation and regret at not having met you. Secondly, I hope we may reciprocate in a small way your kindness and should you ever desire to see the New York World's Fair, as I am Commissioner of Public Events for the City of New York, I will arrange for you to get into any of the major exhibits without wait.

In any case, I hope you will understand what happened and not think too badly of us.

Kind regards.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'John Mosler', with a stylized, flowing script.

John Mosler

Admiral Richard W. Bates
United States Navy
Newport, Rhode Island

1159

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:
C/O AMPHITRITE, KNIGHTS, LONDON
TELEPHONE:
BELGRAVIA 2121

ROYAL THAMES YACHT CLUB,
60, KNIGHTSBRIDGE,
LONDON, S.W.1

25th September, 1964.

Admiral Bates,
The Reading Room,
Newport,
Rhode Island,
U.S.A.

Dear Admiral,

On my return to this country from Newport I hasten to write to thank you for the very kind hospitality you extended to me on many occasions and I shall always look back on my visit with very happy memories of the Reading Room.

I trust that if ever you are in London you will visit the Club whereby we can return some of the hospitality you so kindly showed to us.

With all good wishes.

Yours sincerely,



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